

MILLENNIAL STAR



Vol. 111, No. 3 — March, 1949

ABOUT THE COVER

THIS is Relief Society month, commemorating the 107th anniversary of the Church's oldest organised auxiliary. Speaking in terms of the amount of good this organisation has accomplished, no words of praise could laud it too highly. Human kindness, selfless service, and dependability are not best described in words.

As with all good work the benefits of Relief Society activities are reciprocal. "Whatever we send into the lives of others comes back into our own," and the sisters themselves harvest the joy of service and the satisfaction of spiritual growth a hundred fold above the sowing.

Specific activities, as that of quilt-making pictured on the cover, provide, in addition, a practical school in household arts that every woman is the better for, not to speak of the lovely quilt that will be received with heartfelt thanks by some family in need. Displaying an example of this handiwork are the Mission Relief Society Presidency, standing left to right: Sylvia Moss, secretary and treasurer; Maude Hawkes, first counsellor; Helen Poole, second counsellor; and Gladys Boyer, president.

The **Star** pays tribute to the Relief Society. May it continue to grow and prosper and be a power for good in all the congregations of the Saints.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

109th Year

MARCH, 1949

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EDITOR

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The Purposes and Work of Relief Society

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article was prepared especially for the readers of the "Millennial Star" by President Belle S. Spafford of the Relief Society General Board.

By Belle S. Spafford

President of the Relief Society
General Board

ON Thursday, January 6th, 1842, the Prophet Joseph Smith wrote: "The new year has been ushered in and continued thus far under the most favourable auspices, and the Saints seem to be influenced by a kind and indulgent Providence in their dispositions and [blessed with] means to rear the Temple of the Most High God . . . Truly this is a day long to be remembered by the Saints of the last days, . . . a day in which all things are concurring to bring about the completion of the fullness of the dispensation of dispensations, even the fullness of times . . ." (D.H.C. Vol. IV, p. 492)

The year 1842 did indeed prove to be an auspicious year for the Saints. It was the year in which the Prophet gave to the Saints the word of the Lord regarding baptism for the dead; it was the year in which he commenced his translation of the book of Abraham in the "Times and Seasons"; it was the year in which the now famous "Wentworth Letters" (Articles of Faith) were penned; it was a year of great doctrinal development, and a year characterised by events of great significance to the Church.

The year 1842 was a particularly eventful one for the women of the Church for it was the year in which the Relief Society was born on March 17th. Just as great doctrinal truths were revealed to the Prophet as the result of inquiry and solicitation, so it was in answer to solicitation on the part of the women of Nauvoo, who wished to organise in order that they might combine their means and efforts

to assist the Temple hands, that the Prophet invited them to meet in the Masonic Hall over his store, explaining to them that their offering was accepted of the Lord, but that He had something better for them than they had planned. He told the sisters he would organise them "under the Priesthood, after a pattern of the Priesthood." Sarah M. Kimball in relating the circumstances that led to the organisation of the Relief Society credits the Prophet with saying, "This Church was never perfectly organised until the women were thus organised." (Relief Society Magazine, Vol. 16, Mar., 1919, p. 129)

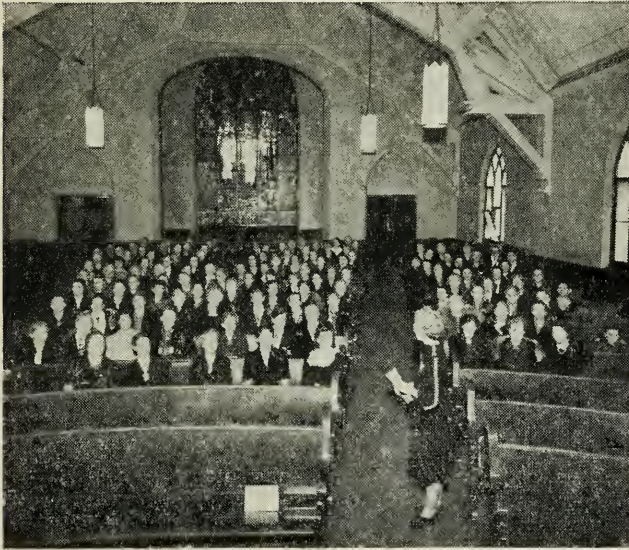
Relief Society was organised under the inspiration of the Lord bestowed upon the great Latter-day Prophet who was divinely called by a personal visitation of the Father and the Son to open up this Last Dispensation. The Prophet, under that same inspiration, clearly set forth the purposes of the Society and established its basic policies and procedures.

Like a beacon light, the purposes set forth by the Prophet Joseph Smith, and re-emphasised time and again by the Prophets who have succeeded him, have guided the programmes and activities of the Society and have led Relief Society women into lives of usefulness and happiness.

The chief purpose of the Society has ever been to seek out and relieve the distressed. The welfare of the people was the first concern of the sisters of Nauvoo, just as it is the first concern of Relief Society today, and the welfare problems of those beginning days were not dissimilar to those of today—

need for food, clothing, bedding, shelter; problems of unemployment, sickness, housing; care of orphans and those bereft of loved ones; administration to the aged. Although welfare commodities are today provided through the great Church Welfare Programme, Relief Society renders willing and loving service in alleviating the distress of the people—whether it be remodelling a used coat, providently processing and preserving food stuffs, patiently and skilfully caring

There is no case of want among Latter-day Saint families that need go unknown to Relief Society presidents when the visiting teaching programme of the Society is functioning fully and properly. Though it is not the duty of visiting teachers to investigate in any way a family's circumstances, cases of need which they observe or which are otherwise brought to their attention are confidentially reported by them to the Relief Society president. The visit of the visiting teacher says, in effect,



to each family visited: "Behind us is a great and wonderful sisterhood interested in your well-being and ready to serve you." The visiting teaching programme is of inestimable value not alone to the families visited but to the Society itself. Through the activities of visiting teachers, membership is increased and the programme of the Society strengthened. As appointed emissaries of Relief Society, visiting teachers further the interests and assist in the work of the organization by acquainting the Latter-day

Representative Ward Class in Educational Work

Seventeenth Ward, Salt Lake City

for the sick, thoughtfully and cheerfully visiting the homebound, or tenderly administering to the multiple needs of the aged. How well Relief Society is pursuing this first great purpose set for it by the Prophet is attested by thousands of sincere and grateful persons living in many parts of the world, as well as by the tens of thousands of hours which the records of the Society show to be devoted to this service annually by Relief Society women.

Saint families with its regular and special activities and by serving in many ways as the intermediary between the Society and Latter-day Saint homes.

The second basic purpose of Relief Society is the development and education of Latter-day Saint women, for did not the Prophet say, "I now turn the key in your behalf in the name of the Lord, and this Society shall rejoice, and knowledge and intelligence shall flow down from this time henceforth . . ."

The educational programme of Relief Society has evolved from very modest beginnings until today an extensive, well-rounded, advanced educational programme is carried forward, designed to strengthen the testimonies of the women in the truthfulness of the restored Gospel; to instruct, stimulate study, assist the sisters in their homemaking activities, and provide guidance for happy and effective living. In Nauvoo the problems of learning how to preside, to present a problem, how to make and put a motion, how to pray and to speak in public gave the women educational opportunities rare at that time. Moreover, they had recently accepted the restored Gospel which stimulated study, discussion, and testimony bearing. Today, in addition to such educational opportunities, excellent courses of study planned by the General Board and approved by Priesthood authorities are regularly presented in the meetings held for the general membership. The total programme of Relief Society offers spiritual development and unlimited educational opportunities for its members. Irrespective of her interests, aptitudes, talents, or abilities, a woman will find in Relief Society rich opportunities for expression and personal development as well as many avenues for effective service.

The good that has been accomplished by Relief Society during its one hundred and seven years of life cannot be measured. As the women have diligently and prayerfully followed recommended programmes and procedures, the Society has grown strong in numbers and influence. Its members have become poised, well-informed, gracious, serviceable women, courageous in meeting the vicissitudes of life because of the strength of their testimonies and the spiritual power which they possess. Wherever Relief Society has functioned, the virtues of community life have been strengthened and families have been comforted and blessed. The benefits accruing to the Church through this Society have been of inestimable greatness. Strength-

ening the hands of the brethren in the Welfare Programme of the Church, rendering compassionate service to those in distress, aiding mothers in the better management and conduct of their homes, Relief Society has proved itself a bulwark of service to the Church. President Heber J. Grant at one time declared: "Without the wonderful work of the women I realise that the Church would have been a failure." ("Gospel Standards," p. 150)

The sincere desire felt by the women of Nauvoo to do woman's part in the work of the Church—the desire that led them to seek an organisation—has remained with the Society throughout its lifetime. It is strong in the hearts of Relief Society women today. With ears attuned to the instructions and counsel of the Priesthood authorities of the Church, Relief Society women living in Alaska, Canada, United States, Mexico, the Latin American countries, Great Britain, Europe, Lebanon-Syria, South Africa, and the Isles of the Sea bound together by the strongest of all ties, the Gospel tie, look to the future confident that if they "seek truth, do justly, have mercy, and walk humbly with the Lord," and are obedient to His will as revealed through His chosen servants, their organisation will continue to competently fulfil the mission designed for it by our Father in Heaven.

Relief Societies in the stakes and missions of the Church, those who abide in the shadow of the great Temple in the valley of the mountains, those whose homes are in the sun-baked lands of Mexico, the frozen stretches of Finland, the Isles of the Sea, or elsewhere, can only function successfully in so far as leaders, with vision of the mission of Relief Society, make sure that in its programmes and activities Relief Society adheres to the well defined and worthy purposes set for it by our Latter-day Prophets, and Relief Society women remain obedient and faithful daughters of our Heavenly Father.

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REVEALED KNOWLEDGE

By Alma Sonne



Alma Sonne
European Mission President and
Assistant to the Council of the
Twelve

REVELATION from God did not cease when Jesus died on the cross. The Apostles continued to receive revelations, inspiration, and direction in their ministry among the people. Divine communication is the foundation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It was the foundation of the primitive Church. Without divine guidance the Church could not accomplish its mission, and the human family would remain in the shadows of doubt and uncertainty—perplexed and confused before the conflicting theories and dogmas of men.

The Holy Ghost is a Revelator and makes known the mind and will of God to man. The mission of the Holy Ghost is to place the repentant, baptized believer in communication with God. To disclaim revelation is to deny

the power of the Holy Ghost. Without that power man cannot obtain a knowledge of God which is the key to eternal life. Its possession is paramount in the lives of those who are striving for salvation and exaltation. It was conferred on the worthy followers of Jesus Christ and upon the Saints who accepted the Gospel message preached by His Apostles. Under its demonstration Peter delivered his masterful sermon on the day of Pentecost. His words were a revelation from God to the people there assembled.

The restored Gospel of Jesus Christ is revealed knowledge. It came from God through a Prophet who spoke as he was moved upon by the Holy Ghost and who, like Jacob and Moses, conversed with God "face to face." The doctrine of revelation is an essential part of the Gospel plan. Joseph Smith in presenting his beliefs to the world said: "We believe all that God has revealed, all that He does now reveal, and we believe that He will yet reveal many great and important things pertaining to the Kingdom of God." This declaration offers a progressive and satisfying realization of life. It is man's assurance that God is still at the helm, that the heavens are open and that the Creator has not forsaken nor forgotten His children.

A knowledge of God is necessary for spiritual growth and development. It is the basis of happiness and contentment. It clothes man with conviction and inspires him to live a better life. Such knowledge was revealed to Peter when he said, "Thou art Christ, the Son of the Living God." It was further borne out by Jesus when He replied: "Flesh and blood hath not revealed this unto thee, but my Father which is in Heaven." It was a personal revelation to Peter—a revelation

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AN HONEST HEART

By Elder Vernon Young

WHAT makes good men good? What makes the lives of men such as Lincoln and Gladstone shine out from the darkness of past pages in history? There was something in the character of these men that made them outstanding as leaders and examples to all the human family, something that makes their lives a source of inspiration to aid us in our living from day to day. They are kept in fond memory for many reasons, but outstanding among those reasons is their integrity of purpose and thought.

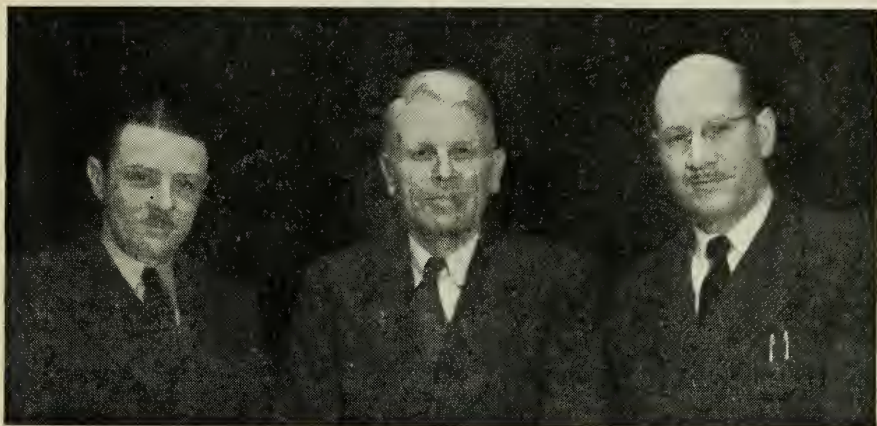
We have been taught and should know from personal experience that the Gospel of Jesus Christ was placed on earth to give all men a more abundant life, a life of peace wherein all may live together partaking of the spirit of love to the fullest extent. The restored Gospel gives us the way to better serve our fellow beings and our God. It can lead us to a full understanding of truth. As we grasp the understanding of truths a little at a time, we receive the promised blessing of a more abundant life. True, some of us cannot, or will not, grasp these truths in their entirety or even in part. That our ability to grasp eternal truth is based directly upon our willingness to grasp eternal truth is one of the facts our Saviour was teaching to the people in his parable of the sower. "Those by the wayside are they that hear; then cometh the devil and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved . . . But that on good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth good fruit with patience." (Luke 8: 12, 15) Those that brought forth good fruit were those that were willing to hear the word and keep it in their hearts, showing forth these good fruits until the end of their mortal lives.

One of the prime requisites necessarily to be found in any of the leaders of the early Christian Church was the possession of an honest heart. "Wherefore brethren, look ye out seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business." (Acts 6: 3) This was the counsel given to the Church by the Apostles of old. History down through the ages has given us the conclusion of too many stories in which an honest heart was not to be found. Too much greed and hatred and love of power can be found on every page of the book of this life. The mere glimmering of comfort and succour given to mankind by mankind in the past bears only a faint resemblance to the brilliant light of hope and that richness of life promised by our Lord during His ministry.

But what have we heard in recent years? The sound, though faint at first, was distinctly heard. With the passing of each day this sound has increased, and its cause stands bright today for all to see. A voice of gladness, the sound of joy to all men, words of truth flowing once again from that eternal source to bless and enrich mankind here on

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MESSAGE from the MISSION PRESIDENCY



THE 17th of March has long been a landmark in the lives of Latter-day Saint women. It was on this day in 1842 that the Prophet Joseph Smith organised eighteen women into what is now generally known as the "Relief Society." That handful of humble sisters has grown into one of the largest women's organisations in the world today, international in scope.

At the ninth meeting of the Relief Society the Prophet Joseph Smith declared, "Said Jesus, 'Ye shall do the work which ye see me do.' These are the grand key words for the Society to act upon." From that day to the present time those words have served as a motivating power to guide the Relief Society and its sisters to do the work done by the Master. The slogan, "Charity never faileth," has kept fresh in their minds the aim and purpose of this great organisation.

Having been organised by the Prophet under the Priesthood, all its activities are under the direction and guidance of the Priesthood. Knowing the spiritual benefits and blessings of the Priesthood of God in their activities and in their homes, the sisters support and co-operate with their brethren whole-heartedly. Latter-day Saint women understand that their place in

the Church is "to walk beside the man, not in front of him or behind him." The sisters realise the strength of their position in the branches as wives, mothers, sisters, daughters and Relief Society workers. They can and should be a pillar of strength in giving assistance and encouragement to the men of their family holding the Priesthood. It is said, and rightly so, that no branch is stronger than its Relief Society organisation.

The need for activity among the Relief Society sisters is as great today as ever before. From the earliest days of the Church the visiting teachers have found the homes where there was illness. They have found the families where material assistance was needed and supplied the helps. Today we are instructed to care for the needs of the membership of the Church. Every true Relief Society woman has the urge to care first for the needs of her own home and family and then to help the branch provide extra supplies for the future needs of others. She senses her responsibility in caring for the sick and afflicted, in comforting those who are called to mourn. She speaks an encouraging word to those who are discouraged and bowed down with sorrow. In very deed she follows the admonition of the Saviour who said, "Ye shall do the work which ye see me do."

CHURCH WELFARE

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a series of articles on the Church Welfare Plan written especially for the readers of the "Millennial Star" by Roseoe W. Eardley, member of the General Welfare Committee of the Church.

IN ACTION

by Roscoe W. Eardley

Member of the
General Church Welfare Committee

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“THE Church is expressly and directly commanded to care for its poor and needy, and the Bishop is charged with the responsibility of carrying it out, and is given all the rights, prerogatives, and functions necessary therefore.”

The Church Welfare Plan has been established to assist the Bishops to carry out their God-given responsibilities. Some of the objectives of the Welfare Plan are:

1. To place in gainful employment those who are able to work and thus enable them to sustain themselves.
2. To provide employment within the Welfare Programme for those who cannot be placed in private industry or made self employers.
3. To acquire the means with which to supply those who work in the Programme and the incapacitated needy with food, clothing, shelter, and other necessities.
4. To supply the needy who will accept the Programme and work in it according to their abilities and skills with the means of living, according to their circumstances and needs.

These objectives, when carried out, do away with the curse of idleness, abolish the evils of a dole, and establish industry, thrift, independence, and self respect in the hearts of the people as they acquire more and more power to help themselves.

Every member of the Church is encouraged to solve his own problems, including the finding of a job, through his own efforts, or, if necessary, with

the help of the members of his family. When a person has done all that he can to help himself and the members of his family have done all they can or will do to assist him, the Church stands by ready to give him what help it can.

When members of the Ward Welfare Committee meet each week with their Bishop, employment problems are among the vital matters considered. In every ward there are two Employment Placement Counsellors and three Priesthood Quorum Representatives who have been called to make this matter one of their chief concerns. Each week they pool their information concerning jobs that are needed and job opportunities which are available for unemployed members. Wards of each stake co-operate to assist all members of the stake, and all stakes in a region pool their information for the benefit of all concerned. In some instances, central employment and placement offices are established to co-ordinate the work of the wards, the stakes, and the region. But, as in all welfare work, the burden or responsibility is upon the Bishop and members of the Ward Welfare Committee.

Complete statistics of the number of persons who have been assisted to find jobs since the Welfare Programme began are not available, but the number is well up into the thousands.

For example, in one region, during a two-year period, welfare employment was furnished to two hundred and thirty persons a day, on an average. There was a turnover of this welfare help every two weeks. This indicates



By Roscoe W. Eardley

that these persons were assisted to find regular jobs within two weeks time or that more than 5,000 jobs a year were supplied.

Again: In a five year period, 2,189 persons, over sixty-five years of age, relinquished their positions on Government relief rolls. Of these, nine hundred and forty-eight were rehabilitated and needed no aid from the Church, the State, or other gratuitous source; eight hundred and ten were assisted to sustain themselves partially, and their deficiencies were made up by the Church Welfare Plan; the remaining four hundred and forty are receiving all of their needs from the Welfare Programme and are being given the opportunity of rendering such assistance in return as their abilities permit.

Employment within the Welfare Plan has been and will continue to be given to hundreds of persons who cannot be placed in private gainful employment. Several Welfare projects have been established for this express purpose. Among them are the Deseret Indus-

tries, which currently employ two hundred such persons and which will be expanded to meet further needs as they arrive. The Deseret Industries receive donations of clothing, shoes, household utensils, furniture, and other items, which can be renovated, rebuilt, or otherwise made useful. Another project is the Deseret Clothing Factory, which currently employs thirty-five persons. This project is set up to supply the knitted underwear, sweaters, and other knit goods needed in the Programme. Manufacturing, agricultural, livestock, and crop projects, which furnish employment to the needy and supply the things needed in the Programme, have been established in nearly every stake of Zion. Currently there are more than 1,500 such projects.

The following is a typical example of such welfare employment projects:

Brother X and his family joined the Church in Europe during his early married life. For many years he was a pillar of strength in the Church and community in his native land. After the World War I he had the opportunity of emigrating to America. Here he successfully engaged in a small business for a number of years. Then misfortune and sickness overtook him. One of his sons passed on, leaving a small family; his son-in-law also died, leaving his daughter to care for her own needs and rear a son; then Brother X himself had a prolonged sickness which exhausted his reserves. However, his good health returned but he faced the future at well over 70 with no means. His eldest son, who loves his parents, had his own problems to rear his family and, although he did all that he could for his parents, it was not enough.

A wise and understanding Bishop had kept an eye on him and comforted him. One day the Bishop said: "Brother X, how would you like to work at the Deseret Industries? At first you may not be assigned to do just the kind of work that you have been trained to do. But all work is important and honourable. After you

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BASKETBALL TEAM SCORES DUAL SUCCESS ON CONTINENTAL TOUR

LATTER-DAY SAINT missionaries touring Europe as British National Senior Basketball Champions have borne Britain's name victoriously against all opposition, which has included some of the best teams in Europe. After winning five matches in France the missionary aggregation moved on to Czechoslovakia where, at the date of this writing, they have won their first four games.

by Hugh S. West

missionaries, and declaring the restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the good people of France and Czechoslovakia. Thousands have become acquainted with the Church through witnessing the team in action, and tens of thousands more have learned of their mission and message through



Back row, left to right: L. Ralph Mecham, Douglas Duncan, Ronald Salo, Archie Haskins, George T. Choules. Front row: Hugh S. West, Quinn McKay, Richard W. Hendricks, James L. Mortensen, James Toone

With the schedule of cage contests not yet completed it is evident that the basketball tour has been a great success, not only from the standpoint of an undefeated record against some of the strongest teams in Europe, but also from the more important aspects of contacting people, making friends for the Church, opening doors to the

generous newspaper accounts that have been published in both countries.

The origin of this tour goes back to last summer when the London District basketball team won the national championship of the British Isles. Because of the reputation thus obtained it was clear that there would be little difficulty in scheduling games

with teams on the European continent. In consequence it was decided by President Alma Sonne of the European Mission that it might be of benefit to the European Mission if the basketball team were permitted to tour the continent, staging contests with teams who were willing to guarantee traveling expenses on the basis of anticipated gate receipts.

Today, as always, confidence and friendship are of paramount importance in spreading the Gospel. The people, for the most part, must be shown that the way of life which they are told about is a practical one. What better method is available to demonstrate this fact than through athletics, a language all people understand?

Basketball talent existed in the British Mission as demonstrated in the previous season's undefeated record for the London elders. This talent was not to be overlooked if it could be used as an effective tool in presenting the Gospel to the world. Under the able direction of President Selvoy J. Boyer of the British Mission ten missionaries were assembled in London and commissioned to tour the continent. Elder James L. Mortensen was appointed captain of the team.

Their first ten days of the trip were spent in France where five games were played and won. The first two games were played in northern France and the remaining three in the Brittany area. Most of the opposing teams were composed of the best players available in the district.

The coming of the missionary team into each town was well heralded by local newspapers, and special posters announced the games. With an average attendance of 1,200 at the games in France small buildings were packed by crowds who thronged to witness the games. The people in France have taken a widespread interest in basketball during the past few years, and they are eager to learn of the American style of play. This accounts, for the most part, for the excellent attendance and the interest shown in the Latter-day Saint team.



However, playing basketball was not the only activity of the team in France. In Lorient, a town of about 40,000 people, the missionaries attended no less than three receptions in one day given in their honour by local dignitaries and clubs. On the same day a large dinner was prepared for them by several townspeople. This town was not so much the exception either, for in two towns the mayor and his councilmen held special receptions to welcome the team to their communities. In all of the gatherings the purpose of the team's visit and their calling as missionaries was explained, and many of the principles of the Gospel were touched upon in the conversations that ensued. The people appeared to be very impressed by the message delivered, and although the language barrier was a definite handicap, with patience and the aid of interpreters the ideas were conveyed, one to another, to the satisfaction of all.

Each town had a specially prepared reception for the travelling team. The hospitality and interest far exceeded

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Our European Missions— NORWAY

INSTRUCTIONS from Salt Lake City to evacuate all missionaries from Norway as rapidly as possible in 1939 prompted a feeling of great concern in the hearts of all who were able to discern the true significance of such an ominous sign. It was with trepidation that Sister Peterson and I turned our backs on the land of Norway where we had so joyfully laboured in the cause of truth. Not for ourselves did we tremble but for those we were leaving behind. Impending disasters, all of which had been foretold, were soon revealed in the epoch making acts of aggression which rapidly engulfed the world.

Six heart-breaking years ensued, bringing us reports of the manner in which Norway, the country we knew and loved, was being overrun by an unscrupulous oppressor. Appreciation of the proud and insuperable spirit which characterises the Norwegian people made us realise that they would never submit themselves to subservience and oppression. We prayed that the righteous would be preserved from needless suffering.

Anxiously expectant, Sister Peterson and I landed once more on Norway's shores February 6th, 1946, rejoicing at the first glimpse of the familiar, rugged coast we knew so well. We were accompanied by our daughter and son-in-law, Brother and Sister George R. Kasteler, their thirteen month old son, and Elders Einer M. Johansen and Olaf Vogeler.

Marked changes were immediately apparent, but we had not expected the people in general to be so well dressed as they were. Clothing was of surprisingly good appearance. This condition was not due to an abundance of clothes but rather to the resourcefulness of the wearers. An article might be used reversed; a shirt-tail often had a promising future as a collar, being

By Pres. A. Richard Peterson
of the Norwegian Mission

replaced by a cloth of another colour. These and innumerable other ingenious improvisations certainly merit the admiration of any practical-minded person. Yes, material exigencies and destruction were present, but they were attended by that indomitable determination which has enabled this hardy country to weather triumphantly the many vicissitudes that have marked its history.

Virtuous qualities are often tempered by privation and suffering. Such being true in Norway among our Saints, the Church enjoyed prosperity during the entire period of hostilities, making a story rich in faith-promoting incidents. Missionaries were called from among the Saints and laboured faithfully under severe conditions. People were converted and baptised; meetings were regularly held and well attended, even though property was wrested from the Church by the "victors for the moment." Ever ready to ascribe all honour to the Lord, the Saints recorded this incident in the Mission History, dated May 7th, 1945, which indicates the prevailing attitude. "We have been without communication with Church headquarters in Zion for a period of three and one-half years. But we have not been without communication with our Heavenly Father, and He has helped us through it all." Also, "... We are now looking forward to hearing from other occupied countries and from our own dear Church." Other happenings which show that the Lord had a hand in events here are found in the same book. The following was written shortly after hostilities commenced. "Our thoughts were recently carried back to the time when President Peterson was compelled to recall the elders



A. Richard Peterson

THIS article has been prepared for the readers of the "Millennial Star" by President A. Richard Peterson, who is at present serving his fourth mission to Norway, his third as mission president. In 1939 his third mission was cut short by the unmistakable signs of a great world conflagration which prompted the First Presidency to recall all missionaries from European countries. When the conflict ended President Peterson and his wife returned to begin their labours afresh. Now, three years since their return, President Peterson reports on the progress of the Norwegian Mission.

from the city called Steinkjer. Early this month (April, 1940) the city was completely destroyed by the Nazi aggressor." Another entry was made shortly after: "In the year 1936 the Lutheran Dean of Kristiansund N., Pastor Grasmø, officially declared to the inhabitants of that city that they should not provide shelter for the 'Mormon missionaries.' His injunction was heeded by the city's populace, and the missionaries were forced to leave the town. In doing so they cleansed

the dust from their feet as a testimony to what had happened. Now, once again, the destroyer has accomplished a thorough work. Not a single house has been left standing. Complete destruction!"

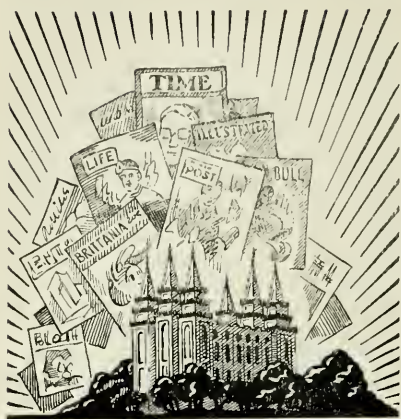
As has been the case since the beginning of missionary activities here in Norway, we encountered bitter opposition from civil and state-church authorities after our return. Unhallowed charges and accusations were again hurled vehemently at "those Mormons." The avowed purpose of this resistance was, "to protect the Christian people of Norway, a Christian people of irreproachable merit, from unscrupulous spiritual-invading heathens." In many sectors of the world the fruits of our labours have shown the people that we are indeed worthy to bear the appellation "Christian." It is hoped that in the future our motives will be understood here, enabling us to loosen the grasp of an immutable prejudice that hardens the hearts of the people.

Upon our return to Norway in 1946 influential civil and church dignitaries recruited the support of the Norwegian press to effectively arraign us publicly so that permanent permission to reside in the country was denied when our three-month visas had expired. Months of involved applications and incessant denial of permission to remain, during which time we were without permanent ration cards, necessitated our seeking the aid of the American Embassy and later Utah's Senator E. D. Thomas. Finally, after eighteen months, the Alien Office issued the long sought "permission for residence permit."

Our precarious position at this time did much to reduce the effect of our labours, and other missionaries experienced the same great difficulties in entering the country. Constant opposition from the press coupled with the resultant unfavourable public opinion still continue to hamper our efforts. Our prayers are that we will yet be able to penetrate that shield of ignorance which forbids the light entrance to their understanding.

—continued on page 93

THE CHURCH AND THE PRESS IN BRITAIN



IN a recent issue of the "Manchester Sunday Chronicle," Beverley Nichols, well-known British writer, reports on his recent tour of America. We quote excerpts pertinent to the Church:

Sunday Chronicle (Manchester)

Salt Lake City is . . . the headquarters of the Mormon faith, and that, to the average man, means polygamy. Why? Because, I suppose, that is the legend. **POLYGAMY? NOT SINCE 1890**

I sometimes think that there are three things in this world which men relinquish with equal reluctance—their lives, their lusts, and their legends.

This legend of Mormon multi-marriage has been out of date since before most of us were born. Polygamy was abolished in the 1890's, and even when it played only a minor part in the lives of most of the Latter-day Saints, as the Mormons call themselves. Only three per cent of them ever practised it.

Salt Lake City will always stay in my mind as a city of light, of cold, and of morality.

The light dazzles, and I felt almost blinded as it poured through the glass roof of the omnibus when we drove over snowy roads from the station.

IN BRITAIN

■

The cold nips through you, making you wonder how those early Pioneers ever stood it, shivering in these bare wastes in the sparse shelter of their covered wagons.

As for morality, it is omnipresent.

It is evident in the unpainted faces of the girls in the streets, in the grim Victorian temples round which the busiest streams of traffic revolve, in the newspapers that are denuded of anything so degrading as a liquor advertisement.

DIVORCE RATE IS LOW

It is evident even in the notices in the elevators, which read: "In order to avoid giving offence to normal persons, smokers are requested to refrain from indulging their habit while using this elevator."

Incidentally, this feeling of morality is not merely a figment of my imagination. The divorce rate in the State of Utah, of which Salt Lake City is the capital, is less than one-tenth of the average rate for the rest of the U.S.A.

Is this high moral standard oppressive? I do not think you would have found it so.

You would probably have felt, as I did, that in a country where there are four million alcoholics (the latest reliable statistics for America), it is something of a relief to escape from them.

And after the blatant materialism of some of the cities where I have been, it is refreshing to feel that here is a city where God is, to put it bluntly, of more importance than the local mayor.

One tiny incident remains in my memory. I lunched with one of the leading Mormons, and we were served by an old coloured waiter.

—continued on page 94



The Children's Page

By June Carlisle

MR. MARCH WIND

I love old Mr. March Wind;
He's such a funny fellow.
He's also very noisy,
But I like to hear him bellow.

His home is not so far away.
Just there, behind a hill,
You'll find him without looking;
He never can keep still!

He's also full of jokes and pranks
Like lifting Grandpa's hat!
And he puffed at baby brother
Till right flat down he sat.

He blew the family wash around
Till sheets were tied in knots,
And sent the boys' kites up so high
They looked like tiny dots.

But every single springtime,
When April comes around,
I think he must go fast asleep;
For he doesn't make a sound.

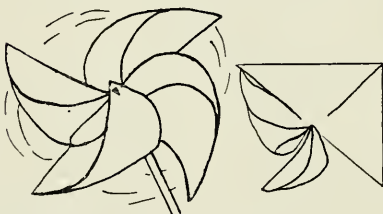
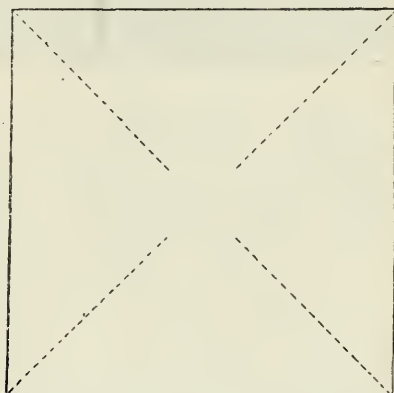
—Kathryn S. Gibson

A KITE

I often sit and wish that I
Could be a kite up in the sky
And ride upon the breeze and go
Whichever way I chanced to blow.

DECORATIVE EASTER EGGS

Instructions will be given in the next issue for making decorative Easter eggs; therefore, save each egg shell by breaking it as follows: Make a hole about the size of the end of a pencil in one end. Holding a finger tip over this opening, make another hole slightly larger in the other end. Shake gently until the contents are removed. If necessary, break the yolk to remove it. Dry the shells and put them away carefully.



MAKE A WINDMILL

This little windmill may be quickly cut from a 6 inch square of paper. Hold the corners marked "X" together and insert a pin to hold these corners and through the centre into a stick.

WATCH THE MINUTES

"I shall never find time to learn this lesson for tomorrow," said Dave to Frank, as they left school.

"You have ten minutes now before dinner, why not begin at once?" asked his brother.

"Ten minutes! that's nothing. Besides, I must have a run with my dog now," replied Dave as he whistled to his dog.

After dinner the two boys walked off to school again. Frank took out his book and began to study. "What a bookworm," said his brother and he looked for birds' eggs in the hedge, until they got to school.

—con inued on page 94



Editor

HOW GOOD IS YOUR BRANCH?

THE world is filled with a variety of church organisations. Each one is composed of a group of people who, nominally at least, subscribe to the same religious beliefs and who desire to meet together in congregations for the purpose of worship. For Christians, whom we will define as those accepting the divinity of Jesus Christ, the necessity and desirability of a church organisation stems from the precedent set by early Apostles of the Master, who went about establishing organised congregations of Christian worshippers, or branches of the Church, wherever their Gospel seeds fell in fertile soil.

According to Paul the Church organisation with its officers and teachers was established "For the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Accepting without doubt the deity of Jesus and the inspiration under which His Apostles acted, we would presume that the organisation as set up by them would be the best that could be established for carrying out the avowed purpose. We may assume that the plan of organisation was relatively perfect, considering the human instruments to be used in carrying it out.

Proceeding upon the basis that the organisation was theoretically perfect, can we further assume that in practice it also worked perfectly? Truthfully we cannot. The scriptures bear witness that contentions were not uncommon and that all did not function smoothly in the various branches of the Church. Otherwise Paul's letters for the purpose of correction and encouragement need never have been written.

Why, then, if the plan was good, were faults to be found in the operation? It was because the plan, to achieve its full purpose, required each member of the organisation to play his part well. Through ignorance, indifference, or wilful disobedience many of the so-called Saints failed to pull their share of the load, some of them even trying to pull in the opposite direction. Consequently the full benefits of the Church organisation were not realised, not because the organisation was poor, but because the Saints failed to live worthy of it.

Not too many years passed before the organisation itself became corrupt. Men, unwilling or unable to abide the high standards, changed the rules of order to make them a little easier to live by. Soon there was nothing but authority-shorn tradition to pass on to future generations.

Then came a restoration. Through Joseph Smith, the Prophet, the plan in its perfection was revealed once again. To an uncertain world the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, as distinguished from the former day Saints, offers a unique and pleasing contrast to the many products of obviously confused religious thinking.

orial



Our organisation is good because it is of God. But in our branches does it function perfectly? According to its design it is to build for perfection, spiritually, mentally, physically, and materially. Neither Paul nor anyone else of authority put qualifications upon the fields of praiseworthy endeavour in which we should seek to become perfect. What did the Saviour say? "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." And again, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." How well is this broad purpose being served in the branches of the Church?

Two people in the same branch might answer differently. Though nearly all must admit that opportunity for spiritual growth and personal development is offered through the programme of the Church, not all are equally benefited. In every case the man who bears testimony that the Church has helped him is one who has done his bit to help the Church organisation to function properly. The growler who finds himself little improved for his nominal affiliation with the Church is usually one who expected to harvest a substantial crop without the effort of sowing.

In a branch, to preserve order, administrative authority is placed in a branch president and other officers who are sustained by the vote of all the members. Their responsibilities are more specific in seeing that the Church programme is carried out than those of other members of the group. But that does not mean members holding no official position are devoid of responsibility for the well-being of the Church. Officers cannot do, and should not try to do, all the work alone. The sharing of responsibility, and the personal development that naturally results from honouring it, is the genius of the Saviour's Church organisation. When a man knows the work is of God, his obligation is to support it wholeheartedly. If one member fails to lend support, the whole effort is retarded in just that degree. Furthermore, a man who feels that the Lord's plan is being mis-used has an obligation to bring his complaint before the branch authorities and not to undermine the confidence which others place in them by voicing his adversely critical opinions behind their backs.

How good is your branch? That is a question you must answer for yourself. If you are in the branch presidency, it will be just as good as your leadership will make it. If you are working in an auxiliary, to you the branch will be as good as your enthusiasm, initiative, and effort to magnify your calling will make it. If you are a member not set apart to some particular calling, the worth of the branch to you will be in direct proportion to the co-operation and support you give to the programme of the Church. No one can successfully escape the responsibility which that question implies. To personally answer it 100 per cent is your obligation and your salvation!—ROBERT E. RIGGS

World Church News



DR. EYRING RECEIVES SCIENCE AWARD.

— Dr. Henry Eyring of the Deseret Sunday School Union general board and dean of the graduate school, University of Utah, was presented the 1948 award of the Research Corporation of New York for outstanding scientific research. Dr. Eyring received the award, which included a £625 honorarium, for his "outstanding scientific leadership, perseverance, and personal effort," at a dinner in his honour, February 10th, at the Hotel Utah in Salt Lake City. Head of the graduate school of the University of Utah since 1946, Dr. Eyring was professor of chemistry and director of Fundamental Research of the Textile Institute at Princeton University. He is recognised as one of the world's foremost theoretical chemists, and has directed numerous research projects in this field since coming to the University of Utah.

NINETEEN WARDS PLAN 100TH ANNIVERSARY.

— Celebrations galore were held during the week of February 22nd by the original nineteen wards of Salt Lake City to commemorate their 100th anniversary. Typical of the celebrations was the one conducted by the Third Ward of the Liberty Stake. A pageant entitled, "A Century of Memories," was presented four times, twice on February 19th and twice on February 21st. For the young members of the ward a dancing party was given on February 15th, and a week later, February 22nd, a banquet for all was held. Besides the pageant

a ward show was staged on February 18th. As a grand finale February 25th saw an evening of old-time dancing.

ELDERS ORGANISE ORCHESTRA.

— Five elders comprising the Central Pacific Mission orchestra have achieved an unusual record in making contacts with potential investigators. During the first eight months they played at eighty-seven school programmes, at seventy-one functions for other institutions, organisations, clubs and the public in general, and for forty-eight dances which makes a total of 208 performances, with a total attendance of approximately 67,000 people.

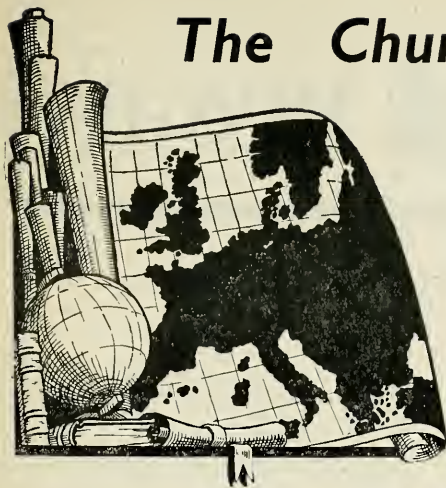
URUGUAY MISSION PROGRESS.

— The year 1948 saw substantial growth of the newly established Uruguayan Mission. January, 1948, found the infant mission with twenty-four missionaries and four small but active branches. By January, 1949, there were fourteen branches, with forty-three auxiliaries operating successfully, and the efforts of missionaries, whose numbers had swelled to sixty-four, had brought forty-nine new members into the Church. With the solid foundation of past months' activity to build upon even greater success is expected during the coming months.

BEANS FOR JAPANESE SAINTS.—

Such success has attended the first welfare project of the Central Pacific Mission in the Hawaiian Islands that it will stimulate further activities in the future. The project consisted of a three-acre plot of ground, donated free of charge, planted in Lualualic pole beans. Of the produce 10,030 pounds were marketed and 142 cases canned for shipment, the Hawaiian Tuna Packers Company donating their cannery to the mission for two evenings while the work was being done.

The Church in Europe



SWEDISH SAINTS HOLD CONCERT.—On January 21st the members of the Malmö Branch staged a successful fund-raising concert in order to purchase furniture for their chapel. This is the second such undertaking to raise funds for chapel improvements since it was dedicated by President Alma Sonne on July 13th, 1947. The money received from the first fund-raising programme was used to build a baptismal font. Since that time the local members desired to do something more to make their chapel a place of worship so they are staging their own money raising concerts. In this way the more the members put into their own branch the happier they are according to President Eben R. T. Blomquist.

DUTCH MISSION GROWING.—The Netherlands Mission has recently acquired three buildings to be used for chapels as soon as necessary renovations are finished. These buildings are located in Leeuwarden, Zutphen and The Hague, and will greatly aid the members of the Church there in having chapels of their own in which they can worship. The members feel very fortunate to have been able to obtain these meeting places as there is a shortage of buildings throughout Hol-

land. President Zappey also reports that steps were taken to divide the Rotterdam Branch. As it now stands there is a branch on each side of the river, and each branch has a membership of nearly four hundred Saints. He also reports that several new cities have been opened for missionary work and the missionaries are meeting with remarkable success. Recently in the Arnhem District Conference a special session was held in which sixteen converts were baptised into the Church.

PRESIDENTS CONFER ON WELFARE.—President Walter L. Stover of the East-German Mission and President Jean Wunderlich of the West-German Mission met recently with President Alma Sonne at the European Mission Headquarters relative to welfare transactions for the coming year. Present welfare requirements, future contemplated requirements and methods of distribution were discussed completely. President Wunderlich reported that due to the improved economy in Western Germany welfare requirements for the Saints there could be reduced considerably. This, however, is not true in the Eastern part of Germany where members of the Church will still have to be supplied with welfare shipments from the General Church Welfare Committee.

SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION PRESIDENCY FILLED.—President Evan P. Wright of the South African Mission reports that Brother E. R. Yarn and family have been granted entrance to South Africa. Brother Yarn will serve as first counsellor in the Mission Presidency and Brother Daniel A. Cherrett, a local member of the Mowbray Branch, has been set apart as the second counsellor, thus completing the South African Mission Presidency. Brother Yarn and family plan to leave their home in Atlanta, Georgia, for the mission field in the near future.

BRITISH MISSION



ARRIVALS AND ASSIGNMENTS

The following missionaries arrived in the British Isles on February 2nd:

Elder JESSE N. UDALL of Phoenix, Arizona, was assigned to labour in the Sheffield District.

Elder HORACE ETHER COLTRIN of Burley, Idaho, was assigned to labour in the Liverpool District.

Elder VALTON ELMER JACKSON of Kanab, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Norwich District.

Elder JERRY KEITH LAWRENCE of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the London District.

Sister RUTH PEEL of Mt. Pleasant, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Birmingham District.

Sister MARGARET HAMILTON of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Scottish District.

Elder JAMES CAMPBELL HAMILTON of Phoenix, Arizona, was assigned to labour in the Liverpool District.

Elder CHESLEY NELS PIERSON of Owendale, Alberta, Canada, was assigned to labour in the Liverpool District.

Elder DAVID HARRY SIMISTER of San Francisco, California, was assigned to labour in the Newcastle District.

Elder W. RUSSELL PALFREYMAN of Springville, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Norwich District.

Elder DON VAL DEAN BLACK of Tooele, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Bristol District.

Sister IDA MOCKLI of Preston, Idaho, was assigned to labour in the Birmingham District.



RELEASES

Elder FRED WHITAKER MASON was released as a missionary to the British Mission on January 28th. Elder Mason laboured in the Welsh, Leeds, and Hull Districts.

Elder OWEN PARKINSON was released as a missionary to the British Mission on January 28th. Elder Parkinson served in the London and Hull Districts.

Elder GEORGE KAY HARDY was released as a missionary to the British

Mission on January 28th. Elder Hardy laboured in the Welsh and Scottish Districts.

Sister ELVA A. BENNETT was released as a missionary to the British Mission on January 28th. Sister Bennett laboured in the Sheffield, Welsh, and Birmingham Districts.

Elder GEORGE Q. BENNETT was released as a missionary to the British Mission on January 28th. Elder Ben-

nett laboured in the Sheffield District, the Welsh District as District President, and in the Birmingham District.

Elder LEO GLADE GREENHALGH was released as a missionary to the British Mission on February 1st. Elder Greenhalgh laboured in the Scottish District.

Elder JAMES BLYTHE MOYES was released as a missionary to the British Mission on February 1st. Elder Moyes laboured in the Sheffield and Scottish Districts.

Elder WESLEY RAY WILLIAMS was released as a missionary to the British Mission on February 1st. Elder Williams laboured in the Bristol, Norwich, and Welsh Districts.

Elder PAUL FIELDING JENSEN was released as a missionary to the British Mission on February 10th. Elder Jensen laboured in the Sheffield, Nottingham, and Manchester Districts.

Elder CHARLES A. EDWARDS was released as a missionary to the British Mission on February 10th. Elder Edwards laboured in the Birmingham and Liverpool Districts.

Elder CLARENCE LOWELL OLSEN was released as a missionary to the British Mission on February 18th.

Elder Olsen laboured in the London and Newcastle Districts.

Elder WILLIAM L. BLACKWELL was released as a missionary to the British Mission on February 18th. Elder Blackwell laboured in the Norwich District, serving there as District President, and in the Liverpool District.

Elder LAMAR T. EMPEY was released as a missionary to the British Mission on February 18th. Elder Empey laboured in the Norwich and Birmingham Districts, serving as District President in the latter.

Elder REED McNEIL IZATT was released as a missionary to the British Mission on February 18th. Elder Izatt laboured in the Scottish District, serving there as District President.

Elder DALE MONROE CHAPMAN was released as a missionary to the British Mission on February 18th. Elder Chapman laboured in the Manchester and Norwich Districts.

Elder HUGH ANGUS McLEAN was released as a missionary to the British Mission on February 18th. Elder McLean laboured in the Bristol District.



APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS

Elder REED A. BENSON was transferred from the London District to the Newcastle District on February 3rd and was appointed Supervising Elder of the Newcastle District, effective the same date.

Sister **BETH SWAINSTON** was transferred from the Birmingham

District to the Scottish District on February 3rd.

Elder VERNON YOUNG was appointed District President of the Scottish District on February 8th.

Sister **ELIZABETH CALDER GARDNER** was transferred from the Nottingham District to the Birmingham District on February 3rd.



DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT

Reported by **Florence I. Blackman**

The past few months missionaries have been labouring at Tipton, and

Primary and Beehive classes have been held regularly in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hancock. On January 30th a farewell party was held in honour of

Elder Charles Edwards who is leaving for home. A grand time was had by all. A set of carvers was presented to Elder Edwards.

Many of the Saints who have emigrated to Zion proved that the old friends are not forgotten by getting together to send a food parcel to Birmingham Branch members. Consequently a grand party was held at Handsworth on January 29th at which all partook of rarely known luxuries. Our grateful thanks go out to our friends so far away.

BRISTOL DISTRICT

Reported by Gerald W. Wilkinson

The Stroud Branch was reorganised at a special conference held February 6th. Arthur B. Fletcher was released as branch president, having served in that capacity for over twenty-six years, including twelve years as president of Stroud and Cheltenham combined. He has served under fourteen mission presidents (British and European). Elder Gerald W. Wilkinson was sustained as branch president, and Elder Derwin J. Orgill as clerk.

On Saturday, February 5th, a farewell social was held at Norwood Hall, Stroud, in honour of Elder Ray Lawrence and Elder Hugh A. McLean, both of whom have laboured in the Stroud Branch and will soon be departing to their homes in America. Games, refreshments, and dances were enjoyed by over seventy people. Choral numbers were rendered by the Stroud Branch Primary children and the Bristol District Elders' Chorus.

Elder Don V. Black arrived in the Bristol District on February 3rd and was assigned to labour as district clerk.

Permission has finally been obtained to hold street meetings in Cheltenham. Elders from Stroud and Cheltenham may be found any Wednesday evening under a gas lamp on a convenient, central street corner bearing their testimonies and delivering the message of the restored Gospel.

HULL DISTRICT

Reported by Betty Pashby

A social in the Hull Branch to raise funds for the Gold and Green Ball took place on January 28th. Games and dancing took up a large part of the programme, and a play was given which caused a lot of amusement. Three days later fifty people gathered to wish Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Ransom goodbye at a farewell social held prior to their departure for America. Mr. Ransom was replaced as branch president by Elder R. D. Parry.

The climax to February's happenings was a public meeting held February 8th attended by sixty people. Speakers were District President A. Swan, who covered a lot of ground discussing the subject, "What is Mormonism?" and President Selvoy J. Boyer inspired everyone with his address on "The Fruits of Mormonism."

On January 11th Evelyn Sheaves was baptised by Elder Owen Parkinson and confirmed by Elder F. W. Mason. Both of these elders have since departed for home having completed their missions.

Grimsby Saints found raising building funds most entertaining at a social held for that purpose January 25th under the direction of Mr. Hammond. In the course of the evening two lovely vocal solos were given by Mary Kingswood, two pianoforte numbers by President Swan and Miss Marjorie Smith, and a tap dancing number by

Miss Barbara Powell were presented. Music for dancing was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Hammond. A total of £7:1:0 was netted for the building fund.

IRISH DISTRICT

Reported by Andre C. Anastasiou

News from the Emerald Isle this month includes a reorganisation in the presidency of the Belfast Branch.



Elder Vaughn Merrell has been appointed branch president with two local brethren, Hubert Wilson and Jack Ditty, as counsellors, and Frank Dunn as branch clerk. The Sunday School also has been reorganised, with Ernest Hamilton as superintendent, assisted by David Emerson and Ethel Ditty.

The Welfare Plan in the Church has become an important issue with the Belfast Saints. Much emphasis upon the necessity and importance of this work has been made in the Priesthood classes and in the Sunday night programme. This emphasis had the desired effect. Through the efforts of Elder Fillerup, with the local brethren collecting jam pots as a means of raising funds for seed, a plot of vacant land opposite the chapel has been acquired and "Operation Welfare" is well under way. Vegetable and green stuffs are to be planted, and the Aaronic Priesthood brethren have become quite seed conscious. The plot of land was rather difficult to work, but a united effort soon reduced the rough ground to well dug earth. Your humble reporter also acquired, in the words of the song, "an ache in the back of my sacroiliac."

LEEDS DISTRICT

Reported by Hal K. Campbell

And in this corner we have the Leeds District. Let's review the accomplishments during late January and February.

On January 22nd a Leeds-sponsored M.I.A. social was given for the district. Special favours and decorations, games, programme, and dancing made a fine evening's entertainment. President Boyer was in attendance for a time.

Of special importance was a public meeting held at Halifax on February 9th. In spite of the freakish storms of snow, rain, hail, and wind a goodly number of non-members were in attendance, and all who were there expressed their enjoyment of the exceptionally fine talks given by President R. L. Jack and President Selvoy J. Boyer. All were very glad that they

had the privilege of hearing the fine speeches.

A district social sponsored by the Dewsbury Branch Sunday School, was held at Bradford on February 12th. Fun and frolic, in the form of games, dancing, programme, and refreshments, was the theme of the party.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT

Reported by Stephen B. Nebeker.

On Sunday, January 23rd, a baptismal service was held in the Burnley chapel. Doris Whittaker and Douglas Charles Pollard Latham were baptised by Elders Clifton R. McBride and Mervin R. Brown. They were confirmed by Leland W. Rawson and Miles H. Johnson. President Rawson and Elder Brown addressed the forty-six Church members and friends who were present on the importance of baptism. A baptismal service was held in Liverpool on February 1st under the direction of Elder Richard A. Morris. District President Leland W. Rawson and Sister Elizabeth Souter spoke on Faith, Repentance, Baptism, and the Holy Ghost. Elder Edmund C. Evans baptised John Barton and Stephen Fletcher. President Rawson confirmed John Barton and Elder Arnold R. Morris confirmed Stephen Fletcher.

A farewell social was held in the Liverpool Branch on February 2nd for Brother Trevor James and Sister Joan Smith who are emigrating to Salt Lake City. Branch President David R. Willis presented gifts on behalf of the branch members and friends. We all wish them happiness and success in the years to come.

Games, refreshments, and decorations depicting the Valentine Spirit were enjoyed by thirty-five people who attended the Blackburn Branch social held on February 14th. The party was sponsored by members and friends of the branch, and was deemed a success by all.

LONDON DISTRICT

Reported by Jean Silsbury

The M.I.A. drama competition is in full swing in the London District. At

each performance a film was shown and the recently formed Millennial Chorus sang. The first show was at South London on



February 1st with nearly two hundred present. Other items on the programme were "One Fine Day" and "Oh My Beloved Daddy" sung by Gwendoline Silsbury and two recitations by Marie Hill. North London's show was presented on February 10th, that of Catford on February 11th, and St. Albans on February 15th where again nearly two hundred, mostly investigators, were in attendance.

On January 8th St. Albans' Saints held a party for the Sunday School and Primary children. A programme was presented in which the children were invited to show their talents. A lunch was provided by the Relief Society after which the children all joined in playing games. Final highlight was the presenting of a gift to each child.

Recently "Fireside Chats" have been inaugurated in the South London Branch under the direction of Elder George T. Choules and Sister June Carlisle, M Men and Gleaner leaders. At the first one Mr. Hans Weinberg gave a very interesting lecture on antiques, telling many of his personal experiences. At the second Mr. Silsbury gave a lecture on marquetry illustrated with his own pictures.

MANCHESTER DISTRICT

Reported by Norman T. Woodhead

Albert Woodruff and John Heggibottom of the Hyde Branch who are touring the district presenting a film show to the Primaries have been well received by the delighted children.

Stockport Branch is continuing to progress, with attendance at all auxiliaries steadily increasing. Successful open air meetings held by Elders Shaw and Gardner are aiding this growth.

Two district functions, sponsored by the M.I.A., the Gold and Green Ball held January 22nd and the Valentine Ball on February 11th, were well attended. There is a wonderful spirit of co-operation in the M.I.A. organisation of this district.

District President Lorry E. Rytting has reorganised the circuiting of speakers for Sacramento meetings, and now a number of local members are circuiting to speak at the various branches on the third Sunday of each month.

The missionaries are actively engaged in open-air meetings, cottage meetings and tracting, and it is not uncommon for two and even three cottage meetings to be held on the same day by one pair of missionaries.

A sign of Bury Branch's continued growth was their successful branch conference held January 30th.

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT

Reported by Joyce H. Tiffen

On February 10th, President Selvoy J. Boyer travelled to Sunderland where in the afternoon an Elders' Meeting was held. At night 136 persons (40 per cent being investigators) attended a public meeting conducted by District President Frederick W. Oates. The meeting was first addressed by Supervising Elder Reed Benson and then by President Boyer who gave an inspiring address on the "Restoration of the Gospel in These Latter Days," his theme being that God does still speak to man. Solos were rendered by Mrs. Curoe and a piano recital was given by Elder Donald Waterworth.

Those attending this wonderful meeting were well repaid for the effort they had made to be present. One branch, Middlesbrough, hired a bus, thus enabling over twenty Saints and investigators to hear the words of President Boyer.

On January 30th, officers in the

Darlington Relief Society were set apart as follows: Violet Wappett as president, Leonora M. Edwards as first counsellor, and Evelyn Dinsdale as second counsellor, with Ida Dinsdale as secretary.

Seventy persons attended a farewell social held January 27th at Sunderland chapel in honour of departing missionaries, Supervising Elder Burchell E. Hopkin and Elder George T. Sonntag. Games were conducted by Gladys Quayle and Mrs. Isobel Binney. A linen tablecloth was presented to each missionary by Ivy Brown and William Cotter, on behalf of the Saints, as a small token of remembrance and good wishes. Solos were rendered by Anne Walmsley and Gladys Quayle.

NORWICH DISTRICT Reported by T. M. Aldous

Norwich District Union Meeting was held at Lowestoft February 3rd. Two violin solos by Elder Elder Russell Palfreyman, departmental instruction, a teacher training lesson presented by Elder Donald R. Kirkham, and refreshments made up the evening's programme.



The Cambridge Branch Primary party was given January 29th at the home of Mrs. Florence Musgraves with games, baked potatoes and sweets being the treat for thirty-seven children there.

At the Cambridge Branch conference, presided over by President George W. Palmer, Elder Lysle G. Munns, branch president, and Elder Merrill Snow, branch clerk, were released with a vote of thanks. Sustained were Elder Merrill Snow, branch president, and Elder T. M. Aldous, branch clerk. Others sustained were Mrs. Florence Musgraves, Primary mother; Elder Grant W. Anderson, Sunday School superintendent; James Musgraves, as-

sistant to the Sunday School superintendent.

Lowestoft Branch was alive with parties during the past two months with Primary, M.I.A., Sunday School and Relief Society sponsoring social events.

On January 16th the following changes in officers of the Lowestoft Branch were made: Relief Society—Gladys Walpole released as president, Fay Upson and Florence Gowing as assistants, R. Tegadine as secretary-treasurer. Sustained were M. Blowers, president; M. Adams, first assistant; R. Tegadine, second assistant; M. Smith, secretary-treasurer. Primary—Released were M. Blowers, C. Coleby, L. Belton, and P. Upson. Sustained were Lillian Haynes, Primary mother, Thelma Green, assistant.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT Reported by June Wilson

A baptism took place at Victoria Baths, Nottingham, with Mrs. Ann March of Mansfield being baptised by President C. W. Knowles and confirmed by Elder Elmer Hogge.

January 30th found 152 people attending the evening service in Leicester to hear President Alma Sonne, President Selvoy J. Boyer, and Sister Gladys Boyer speak. A spiritual feast was had by everyone.

Nottingham's Sunday School party on January 29th was enjoyed by seventy people. All the children received presents, followed by a concert and games which rounded off a lovely evening.

A Sunday School party was held in Derby on January 15th. Over eighteen people partook of a delicious tea and were then entertained by songs and poetry recitations. Prizes for attendance were given, and games brought the event to its conclusion. Superintendent James D. Fletcher had the arrangements in hand.

SCOTTISH DISTRICT

Reported by Betty Sutherland

In the month of January the Edinburgh Branch M.I.A. was completely reorganised owing to the departure of Elder George K. Hardy. Elder J. W. Grant was appointed president of the Y.M.M.I.A. and Isobel Martin was appointed new Y.W.M.I.A. president. Basketball has started again after a short lapse over the Christmas and New Year season, and we are looking forward to many fine games before the end of the season.

Glasgow Sunday School is growing in numbers. A recent party given by the Sunday School showed an attendance of eighty-five.

Woodside Baths, Glasgow, has been the scene of two baptisms of late. On December 22nd Rose W. Macfarlane was baptised by Elder Thomas E. Madill and confirmed by Elder Reed M. Izatt. Mary Macfarlane and William Robertson were baptised by Elder J. Blythe Moyes and confirmed by Elders David Campbell and Joel Dunn.

Again on February 9th three more candidates—Douglas O'Donnell, Margaret Robertson, and Janette Robertson—were baptised by Elder Madill and confirmed in turn by Elders Joel Dunn, Reed M. Izatt, and Vernon C. Young.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT

Reported by Arvilla Smith

Presentations were made to President Newell E. Warr, Elder Clay S. Tanner, and Elder Verl J. Iverson at a farewell party held in the Doncaster meeting hall January 21st. Officiating was President Alvin I. Holton.

A very successful Primary party was held in the Cusworth Lane school room, Doncaster, February 10th. Officiating was Maud Harbon. Songs, recitations, pianoforte numbers, a dance, and other items were given by the children, followed by valentine games and charades. Refreshments were sold by the Trail Builders.

A special Sunday evening service for members and investigators attended by

President and Sister Sonne and President and Sister Boyer was held in the Sheffield Branch chapel January 23rd. Two hundred and fifty people enjoyed inspiring messages. Sheffield Branch chorus rendered "Sons of Michael" and "The Lord is My Shepherd," conducted by Mrs. Vera Beattie.

Preceding district union meeting on January 29th Sheffield Relief Society served dinner. Later the Salvation Army of Woodhouse presented a musical concert programme which the Sheffield M.I.A. are requested to return in March.

Barnsley M Men and Gleaners sponsored a dinner and social evening February 5th. A one-act play entitled "Pot Luck" was presented. Speeches and musical items followed.

The District Gold and Green Ball was held in the Sheffield recreation hall February 19th. Two hundred members and friends attended. Mary Schofield of Castleford Branch was crowned queen of the ball by the retiring queen, Stella Naylor. Mr. Harry Harrison was M.C.

Patricia Porter of Sheffield Branch was baptised December 18th by Elder Gordon Condie and was confirmed by Kenneth Bailey. Mary Atkinson, also of the Sheffield Branch, was baptised December 20th by Kenneth Bailey and confirmed by Elder J. Vaughn Hobson. On January 22nd Betty Fletcher and Mabel Collin Fletcher of Doncaster were baptised by Elder Clay S. Tanner in Sheffield chapel January 22nd. They were confirmed by Elders Robert I. Call and David E. Gledhill, respectively.

WELSH DISTRICT

Reported by Vaughn L. Terry

The Pontypool and Merthyr Tidfil Branches had occasion to rejoice recently when two of their active members who have been in hospital for some months, returned to their homes to take active part in their branches once again. Mavis Howells and Walter E. Pullman are recuperating speedily.

A new kind of proselyting has come

to South Wales during the past few weeks. Large billboards have been rented in Barry and Cardiff to display pertinent facts of Mormonism to the public. Local elders and generous wards in Utah are sponsoring this new scheme.

On February 7th Pontypool Branch held a Primary dance in the Varteg Memorial Hall. Prizes were given to the three best dressed couples attending the costume parade. A number of special mentions received consolation

prizes for their noble efforts. The sixty children in attendance wound up the evening's entertainment with games and refreshments.

The Welsh District basketball team, made up of missionaries, is receiving wide acclaim in local newspapers. To date they have played fifteen games, losing only one. A number of news sports writers have gone so far as to predict that the Latter-day Saint team will represent Wales in the national play-offs.

PERSONALS

BIRTHS

MAYBURY. — Barbara Jean Maybury, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Maybury, recently of Sheffield, was born January 9th in Washington D.C., U.S.A.

WYATT. — Brian Wyatt, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wyatt of Darlington, was blessed by Frederick W. Oates on December 12th.

COOK. — Jennifer Joyce Cook, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Cook, was blessed by her father December 5th in the Norwich chapel.

DEATH

BLOHN. — Sandra Dorothy Blohn of Liverpool died January 6th. Funeral services were conducted by President Leland Rawson. Branch President David E. Willis dedicated the grave.

EMIGRATIONS

THORNTON. — Lillian Thornton and her husband, Mr. Thornton, of the

Doncaster Branch, sailed on January 14th for America, where they will join their daughter, Gloria.

SNOW. — Mr. and Mrs. John Snow and family, formerly of the Sheffield Branch, sailed for U.S. America on January 17th.

MOORE. — Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Moore of Liverpool left for Salt Lake City on December 28th.

TIMMS. — Mr. and Mrs. Fred Timms and family, and Mrs. Isabella Timms, sailed on January 26th bound for Los Angeles, California.

TREVOR. — Mr. James Trevor of Liverpool emigrated to America on February 4th, sailing aboard the "Queen Mary."

LESLIE. — Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Leslie of the Glasgow Branch sailed on January 22nd bound for Utah.

NEW MISSION SCOUTMASTER APPOINTED

MR. FRANK DUNK, member of the Bradford Branch, was recently set apart as Scoutmaster of the British Mission by President Selvoy J. Boyer. For several years prior to his joining the Church Mr. Dunk was associated with one of the Executive Committees on Scouting and youth groups in the Bradford area. He may be contacted at the following address: Mr. Frank Dunk, 5 Harriet Street, Hollings Road, Bradford, Yorks.

REVEALED KNOWLEDGE

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which transformed his entire life and which led him forward in the Master's cause. It emanated from the Holy Ghost. Every Latter-day Saint who lives in harmony with the teachings and standards of the restored Gospel is entitled to such a testimony. It comes from God to those who have complied with the requirements and exercised their faith in a prayerful search for the truth.

Knowledge by faith is not obtained without effort. Right living is the key which opens the door to a personal communion with God. "And we will prove them herewith, to see if they will do all things whatsoever the Lord their God shall command them," said the Lord to Abraham. Mortal life is a constant battle against opposing forces. It is a testing period; but it is also a glorious opportunity to those who will accept the divine guidance which is offered to the faithful. To be in tune with the infinite and to be reassured by the "still small voice" are manifestations of God's power to teach and direct His children in their earthly pilgrimage.

The purpose of God's revelations to man is enlightenment. Without God man is a failure. Unaided and alone he cannot find his way. With the

CHURCH WELFARE IN ACTION

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have become acquainted with the customs and procedures, and perhaps have learned more of the language, particularly pertaining to your work, you may be able to use the skills which you acquired in your native land and do that kind of work which is more agreeable to you. Whatever kind of work you do will be of benefit to others, as well as to yourself, and the Lord will bless you in doing it. The more you are able to do, however, the more blessings you can bring to others who are unfortunate. Through the Welfare Programme your needs—food, clothing, fuel, and shelter—will be provided for and you will also receive a little

restoration of the Gospel came also the restoration of divine communication. Prophets were raised up anciently through whom the Lord could speak to His sons and daughters. These holy men had direct contact with God and gave instructions and warnings in the form of revelations. Some of their prophetic messages were preserved in the Bible and the Book of Mormon. These books have, therefore, been designated as the word of God. Jesus Christ admonished the Jews to search the scriptures and thus recognised their divine origin.

Finally, the abiding witness of the Father and the Son is the Holy Ghost, a member of the Godhead. The gift of the Holy Ghost is the spirit of revelation. It is conferred by the laying on of hands by God's authorised servants. It is available to all who have complied with the preliminaries for entrance into God's Kingdom. Jesus referred to it in His conversation with Nicodemus when He said, "Except a man be born of water and of the spirit he cannot enter the kingdom of God." (St. John 3:5) The gifts of the spirit are manifestations of the Holy Ghost and are the signs of true faith, spiritual life and divine acceptance. The programme for man's exaltation is based on revealed knowledge.

money to meet your cash needs. Best of all you will know that you are earning what you receive and will retain your independence and self respect." Brother X has worked in the Welfare Programme for 10 years. He is now well past 80, but his general health is good and he is happy. The day before Christmas, the writer called on Brother and Sister X in their substantial, cosy, well-furnished four room brick cottage home. The home was warm, comfortable, and "neat as a pin." They spoke of their many blessings and with radiantly happy faces said: "Thank the Lord for the Welfare Plan."

Benefits from the Welfare Plan are not limited to those living in the wards and stakes of the Church. During the

past three years the Church, through the Welfare Plan, has sent to the missions, principally to Europe, one hundred and eleven large American railroad cars of food, clothing, and bedding, and in addition it has dispatched more than 15,000 parcel post packages, principally clothing, which are equivalent to 7 carloads, making a total of 118 carloads of supplies sent abroad, chiefly to Europe. Approximately seven million pounds of food and clothing were sent in these cars.

During 1948 the members of the Relief Society made and sent to our members in Europe 2,646 quilts, and the M Men and Gleaner Girls of the Mutual Improvement Associations pre-

pared and sent to our members in Europe 2,517 Christmas boxes, which had a total weight of 41,669 pounds.

The stakes of Zion are not a land flowing with gold, or with milk and honey. Welfare supplies distributed at home and those which have been shipped abroad, have resulted largely from self-denial and hard work on the part of a large number of Latter-day Saints who are willing to sacrifice for the benefit of others.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A concluding article on this subject by Elder Eardley will appear in the April issue of the "Millennial Star," presenting a brief survey of the production end of the Welfare Plan.

OUR EUROPEAN MISSIONS—

NORWAY

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Even though opposition is great, though City Councils have discriminated against us to the extent of requisitioning property we had purchased to keep us from using it, though clergymen continually warn their congregations of our supposed evil intentions, though men of influence seek to oppose us in every way, we are moving forward, taking courage in our conviction that our adversaries stand incapable of defeating the Lord's purposes. And so, the Gospel of Life pursues its destined course, resplendently clothed in folds of eternal truth, having withstood falsehood from time immemorial.

Eighty-six full time missionaries now carry our message to the most remote sectors of Norway. Novel and faith-promoting experiences testify convincingly that there is still Divine purpose and intervention in this work. In Hammerfest, which claims the distinction of being the world's most northerly incorporated city, the elders report a most significant occurrence. Prior to the retreat of the Germans the city was burned to prevent the Russians from occupying it. The story reads

much the same as the previous ones. Every building was burned to the ground—except one! This particular building, a tiny chapel situated adjacent to the burial grounds, somehow escaped. Several days previous to the destruction of the city the town's church records had been transferred to this already incommodious establishment. This act proved to be the salvation of the records. Had they remained in their original place of storage, the city church, a seemingly safe retreat, they would have been reduced to ashes with the rest of the city. They are the type of books invaluable for genealogical research that we are seeking the world over.

The recent establishment and re-opening of thirteen new branches, the organisation of a new district, with plans for another, the arrival of many missionaries, and the general progress of our work prompt optimistic expectations and rejoicing in our hearts. We are led to a humble and grateful acknowledgement that the Lord is supporting His servants in this work, enabling finite man to transcend his own capabilities—teaching us to love, to pray, and to work.

"Indeed, 'tis a prelude to eternal life."

THE CHURCH AND THE PRESS IN BRITAIN

—continued from page 78

I remarked to my host on the excellence of his service, and the warmth of his smile.

"He's a clergyman," replied my host.

I must have looked surprised at the idea of being waited on by a clergyman, for at that moment the old man leant over my shoulder, beaming happily. "Yes, sir," he exclaimed. "That's what I am. My church is just aroun' the corner, and if you come along you'll get just as good service as you get in this restaurant."

DESCENDED FROM A PROPHET

The great white chief of Salt Lake City is President Smith, Chief Mormon, World President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and not a little of his eminence derives from the fact that he is a direct descendant* of the prophet, Joseph Smith, to whom, as the Mormons believe, the original visions and revelations were

granted more than a hundred years ago.

When the reception clerk in the hotel hurried across the hall with the message that the President wished me to call upon him as soon as I was able, there was a distinct spurt in the Nichols stock.

"So you're going to see the President," said the young lady cloakroom attendant, and the call-boy, and the coloured porter, and the doorman. "My, isn't that just wonderful!"

And I should be the last to deny them, for if ever I met an honest, up-standing, God-fearing man, I met him in President Smith.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: The writer should be complimented for his candour and straightforwardness in recording his observations as he saw them. But one correction should be made. President George Albert Smith is not a direct descendant of Joseph Smith, but is descended from an uncle of the Prophet Joseph.

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

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"Come, let's play cricket!" shouted the boys when their school was over that day. Dave bounded away with the rest. Frank promised to follow in a quarter of an hour, and took out his book once more. This done, he played away with the rest and enjoyed the game thoroughly.

The boys were tired that evening, and went to bed early. But when they returned to school the next day, Frank knew his lesson perfectly, while Dave pleaded that he had not had time to learn it.

"How did you find time, Frank?" asked his teacher.

"I had ten minutes before dinner yesterday, sir, a quarter of an hour coming back to school; and a quarter of an hour before our cricket game. Then I looked over my lesson before I went to bed, and I took ten minutes before breakfast this morning."

"Which makes an hour's preparation," replied his teacher. "Go to the bottom of the class, Dave, and learn that for those who take care of the minutes, the hours will take care of themselves."

THE PURPOSES AND WORK OF RELIEF SOCIETY

—continued from page 68

This year, 1949, Relief Society women looking backward to the year 1842, to the days of origin for Relief Society, grateful in heart for the long and favoured career of their beloved Society and the blessing which it has been to

womankind, recognise and acknowledge the prophetic power of the Prophet Joseph Smith when he declared on that January 6th day more than one hundred years ago, "Truly this is a day long to be remembered by the Saints of the last days . . . a day in which all things are concurring to bring about the fullness of the Gospel."

REPORT ON MICRO-FILM ACTIVITIES



AN old man of 80, almost blind, lives in Somerset, his name Mr. J. W. Corder. He has now retired to this quiet little backwater of England to complete his span of days in peace.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints had never entered into his life, and at his advanced age it seemed unlikely it ever would.

Yet, not realising the part he played, he was engaged in a task which, as the magnet draws steel, would attract the attention of those engaged in the salvation of the dead.

In his home town of Sunderland, Co. Durham, he spent a number of years in copying records. Visiting the Parish Churches he would carefully write in a fine hand christenings, marriages, burials. Pouring over the wills kept in musty church rooms he gathered his harvest of names.

He was not only interested in names of people but in the people themselves, as witnessed by his volumes describing the lives of Sunderland shipbuilders and local characters.

His final act was to make an index to each individual name throughout the collection.

Came the time when a representative of the Church in his quest for genealogical material became aware of Mr. Corder's life work.

The old man gave his blessings and consent to film his collections, so it may be made available to our Church members.

Now, as shown by this list, the priceless material has been filmed. His reward? A glow of satisfaction in this life and hope of greater things in the life to come.

His, too, will be a monument in micro-film in the Genealogical Library of the Church.

1. Sunderland and Tyneside worthies.
2. Sunderland Pedigrees and Family Records.
3. Sunderland and Co. Durham Family Surnames. 14 volumes.
4. Sunderland Families. 4 volumes.
5. Sunderland Parish Register Extracts. 2 volumes.
Baptisms 1719-1862.
Maybury Riggs Chapel Registers 1777-1879.
Robinsons Lane Chapel Registers 1727-1825.
6. Sunderland Parish Register Extracts. 2 volumes.
Burials 1719-1812.
Monwearmouth Parish Register Extracts.
Burials 1683-1830.
Baptisms 1691-1890.
Marriages 1700-1852.
7. Sunderland Parish Register Extracts.
Marriages 1719-1839.
Bishopwearmouth.
Burials 1876-1902 and extracts from other registers.
8. Sunderland Parish Rate Books Extracts 1732-1816.
9. Bishopwearmouth Parish Register Extracts.
Marriages 1567-1924.
Burials 1567-1876.
Baptisms 1567-1921.
10. Bishopwearmouth Families.
11. Bishopwearmouth Church Notes.
12. Bishopwearmouth.
13. Quaker Families.
14. Wear Shipbuilders.
15. Monkwearmouth Families.

BASKETBALL TEAM SCORES DUAL SUCCESS ON CONTINENTAL TOUR

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expectations. Indeed, many friends were made, and confidence, the key to many homes, was gained in rich abundance.

Leaving France the missionaries travelled to Czechoslovakia. At the invitation of the Sokal Club, the large national Czech athletic organisation, the team was scheduled to make an extensive tour of the country.

Mormon missionaries hold a special place in the minds of the Czech people, for they have played a great part in helping to popularise the game in this country. Most of the young people know the name "Mormon" only as a particular style of basketball. As in France, basketball has taken a strong hold on the people and now is one of their national games. Today in Czechoslovakia are found some of the best teams in Europe.

The schedule of games in Czechoslovakia has been made to extend over a period of several weeks. In conjunction with this plan President Wallace Toronto of the Czechoslovak Mission, whose guidance and help has been of great worth since the team's arrival, has made extensive plans to capitalise on the efforts of the touring team. Special meetings are being arranged on days free from games to inform the people of the religion these basketball players represent. Advertisement of the meetings is given at the games and by handbills distributed by the team members during the day. One such meeting held in the city of Kolin

AN HONEST HEART

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earth, words of truth which, if obeyed, give men the courage to stand with honest hearts—that is the sound. In these latter days the voice of the Lord has sounded to all men through His prophet, Joseph Smith: "Thou shalt have a gift if thou wilt desire of me in faith, with an honest heart, believing in the power of Jesus Christ, or in my

attracted some three hundred investigators. At the conclusion of the meeting over forty Books of Mormon were sold.

In the first game in this country, played in Prague, over three thousand people attended. President Toronto, as one of the members of the original "Mormon" basketball team, gave a short talk preliminary to the game, in which the missionary system of the Church was expounded. Without a doubt many people were made aware in a most acceptable manner of the existence of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Other games in Czechoslovakia have been equally successful. Although many of the games have been played in small towns, in every case the halls have been filled to overflowing. Tracts have been passed out at the games, and short talks have been given. The reception has been most encouraging.

Surely the Lord has blessed the efforts of this missionary group by providing a way whereby people could be contacted and told a few of the principles of truth which have been restored to the earth in this latter day. If the hearts of these people can be filled with a desire to sincerely investigate these teachings, the tour can be termed successful.

Special mention should be made of the fine support and co-operation afforded the team's activities by the Czech missionaries as well as by President and Sister Toronto. The greater part of any success accomplished has come about through the co-ordination of local missionary activities with those of the team.

power which speaketh unto thee . . . keep my commandments; hold your peace, appeal unto my spirit; yet, cleave unto me with all your heart. . . ." (D. and C. 11: 10, 18, 19)

In every walk of life we see all types of men, but what is it that makes good men good? An answer, loud and clear, is here: Keep the commandments of God with a willing and an honest heart.

THOUGHTS BY THE WAY

THERE is no limit to the amount of good a man can do if he doesn't care who gets the credit for it.

★

A Doctor of Philosophy in a great U.S. university was sent to Nuremberg War Crimes Trials to record emotions and reactions of defendants. After going through those experiences, and after witnessing the desolation of that ravaged land he said: "I was one of those smart boys who at my university used to ridicule the idea of God and who helped my students to mock him. But now as I stand in this place of utter ruin and see the judgment of God which has come upon this city, and this people, and which is crushing these defendants, the leaders of Germany, I am going back to my country and cry with the loudest voice I can muster, 'It is time that we turn back to God, lest a worse fate befall us.'"

★

Most people find jumping at conclusions much easier than digging for facts.

★

"You can get along with a wooden leg, but you cannot get along with a wooden head. In order that your brain may be kept clear you must keep your body fit and well. That cannot be done if one drinks liquor."—Dr. Charles Mayo, Mayo Clinic

★

Even if you are on the right road, you'll get run over if you just sit there.

★

By the cynic, the sad, the fallen,
Who had no strength for the strife,
The world's highway is cumbered today;
They make up the items of life.
But the virtue that conquers passion,
And the sadness that hides in a smile,
It is these that are worth the homage of earth.
And we find them but once in a while.

★

You'll find a perfect friendship where each accepts the other for what the other thinks he is.

INGRATITUDE, the most popular sin of humanity, is forgetfulness of the heart. It is the revelation of the emptiness of pretended loyalty. The individual who possesses it finds it the shortest cut to all the other vices.

Gratitude is thankfulness expressed in action. It is the instinctive radiation of justice, giving new life and energy to the individual from whom it emanates. It is the heart's recognition of kindness that the lips cannot repay. Gratitude never counts its payments. It realises that no debt of kindness can ever be outlawed, ever be cancelled, ever paid in full.

The expectation of gratitude is human; the rising superior to ingratitude is almost divine. To desire recognition of our acts of kindness, and to hunger for appreciation and the simple justice of a return of good for good is natural. But man never rises to the dignity of true living until he has the courage that dares to face ingratitude calmly, and to pursue his course unchanged when his good works meet with thanklessness or disdain.

We must ever tower high above dependence on human gratitude, or we can do nothing really great, nothing truly noble. The expectation of gratitude is the alloy of an otherwise virtuous act. It ever dulls the edge of even our best actions. Most persons look at gratitude as a prospective tariff on virtues. The man who is weakened in well-doing by the ingratitude of others is serving God on a salary basis. He is a hired soldier, not a volunteer. He should be honest enough to see that he is working for a reward; like a child, he is being good for a bonus. He is really regarding his kindness and his other expressions of goodness as moral stock he is willing to hold only so long as they pay dividends.

There is in such living always a touch of the pose; it is waiting for the applause of the gallery. We must let the consciousness of doing right, of living up to our ideals, be our reward and stimulus, or life will become to us but a series of failures, sorrows, and disappointments.

—William George Jordan.